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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

25X1A

COUNTRY Italy

SUBJECT Increase in Refinery Activity

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(BY SOURCE)DATE ACQUIRED  
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1. The Italian Government has authorized the construction of a new petroleum refinery at Tommaso Natale in the district of Palermo. The new plant will be located on the coast itself and tankers will be able to unload crude oil directly through the dock lines into the refinery storage tanks. The yearly processing capacity of the new refinery will be about 300 thousand metric tons and its equipment will include atmospheric distillation units. In connection with the refinery will be built a coaling station to allow bunkering of ships trading between the western and eastern Mediterranean.
2. The rapidly increasing refinery activity in Italy is indicated by the following figures showing the imports of crude oil during the first six months of 1953, compared with the imports for the corresponding periods of 1952 and 1951. The figures also show the production of the several principal products for the same periods.

	All Quantities in Metric Tons		
	First Half 1953	First Half 1952	First Half 1951
Crude Oil Imports	5,074,335	4,738,278	3,416,805
Gasoline Output	6,000	346,676	104,677
Kerosene	1,000,567	135,985	64,721
Gas Oil	481,328	331,560	153,267
Residual Fuel	800,660	449,799	123,605

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